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Outside Director

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MEDIA CONTACT:

Sharrarne Morton
Morton Media TV
(301) 202-5055
email@mortonmediatv.com

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**BDPA Joins With President Obama's Council on Service and Civic
Participation to Deliver President's Volunteer Service Award
Prestigious Award Honors Outstanding Commitment to Volunteer Service**

Largo – Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) announced today that they have teamed up with the White House to become a *Certifying Organization for the PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD*, a national program recognizing Americans who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service. Established in 2003, the *AWARD* was created by President George W. Bush to give Presidential recognition to individuals, families and groups who meet requirements for volunteer service, measured by the number of service hours performed over 12-months.

BDPA is one of thousands of organizations that have joined forces to deliver the *PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD* and honor the volunteers who strengthen our Nation. As a *Certifying Organization for the AWARD*, BDPA is responsible for verifying service hours, nominating potential recipients and delivering the *AWARD*.

"We are extremely proud to recognize our most outstanding volunteers with the *PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD*," said Monique Berry, BDPA President. "BDPA volunteers are role models in our community, donating their time, energy and talent to advance computer technology across the Nation. The *AWARD* is our way of thanking these volunteers and inspiring everyone in our community to make volunteering a central part of their lives," she added.

The *AWARD* is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, the group that helps to foster and encourage a culture of volunteer service and civic participation among Americans. The program is chaired by two-time Super Bowl Champion Darrell Green, with former U.S. Senators Bob Dole and John Glenn as honorary co-chairs. The Council is composed of leaders in government, media, entertainment, business, education, nonprofit, volunteer service organizations, and community volunteering.

BDPA was founded in 1975 by Earl Pace and the late David Wimberly as an answer to minimal Black representation in the technology field. Today, BDPA is a nationally recognized technology focused organization with 45 active chapters in the United States, and they boast a diverse and varied membership, including programmers, analysts, engineers, managers, instructors, and entrepreneurs. Even for those who never volunteered before, the *PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD* is within their reach. Monique Berry, BDPA President states, "There are so many ways to contribute, and every volunteer hour makes a difference in improving the quality of life for others. BDPA encourages everyone to get involved and to bring along your family, friends and neighbors. Together, we can strengthen America – one hour at a time."

For more information about volunteering with BDPA, contact Zenia Lofton at vpms@bdpa.org.